

DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

**Security Committee**

SECOM-D-171

9 April 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR: CIA Safety Officer

STATINTL ATTENTION:

FROM: Robert A. Taylor  
Executive Secretary

SUBJECT: Possible Health Hazard

1. This memorandum is to bring to your attention a possible health hazard and certainly undesirable working conditions in the suite of offices entered through [ ] Headquarters.

STATINTL

2. The specific problem rests with the flow of black, soot-like material that flows out of our air conditioning vents whenever they are turned on.

3. I experience irritated eyes and a sore throat when in this environment for any period of time and others in my office report the same phenomena.

4. An appeal to the Building Engineer resulted in an offer to shut down the air circulation. While probably solving the problem of blowing dirt, the prospect of another summer in an unairconditioned inner corridor office in Headquarters is not very appealing.

STATINTL

5. The matter was brought to the attention of [ ] of the Building Managers office but he was constrained because of lack of clearances from examining the problem.

STATINTL

6. I am attaching for your information a copy of a memorandum to [ ] of the Headquarters Engineering Branch, OL. My memorandum mentions sending you a sample of the material that comes from the ducts and decorates our persons, desks and table tops. It is enclosed in the attached envelope.

7. If the ultimate solution does merit going after and is in essence a simple matter of getting the vents cleaned out, perhaps, as I told [ ], a concerted effort by all of us could be successful. May I ask your support. Would you be able to have the soot tested to see if it is chemically compatible with reasonable working conditions and let us know the results. I'm sure we would all feel psychologically better if we knew it won't do us in. Would your good office be willing to lend its support to a petition to have this basic conditions rectified so that we may have a clean as well as a secure working environment. There might be something in your charter that could support us.

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8. With thanks in advance.

[ ]

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Attachments

Distribution:

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STATINTL SECOM/[ ] (4/9/80)